

# General Strike of 6,000 Field Workers in Southern California is Planned

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## Western Worker

WESTERN ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, U. S. A.  
(Section of the Communist International)

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Trade Unionists Should Follow the Western Worker for News of Labor Council Meetings in California—Five Different Reports in This Issue.

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# ILA VOTE DEMANDS FULL 1934 AWARD TERMS

## Referendum Launched to Repeal C.S.

### DRIVE BEGINS WITH MEET ON HISTORIC DAY

240,000 Signatures Needed—Deadline Is June 10th

SACRAMENTO, April 19.—Meeting exactly one hundred and sixty-one years after the Battle of Concord inaugurated the struggle for American independence, the State Congress for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Law today launched a broad people's drive for the placing of a repeal measure on the November ballot.

Against the planned reactionary attack of fascist forces in American industry and finance, nearly 600 delegates and observers assembled here in Moose Hall to adopt a vigorous program for democratic rights.

#### PETITION TO REPEAL

Circulation of petitions to collect 240,000 signatures of registered voters by June 10th next, to place an initiative measure to repeal the Criminal Syndicalism Act, was officially begun by the Congress amid great enthusiasm and determination by the delegates.

Petition No. 1 went to Mrs. May Moberg, representing the Women's Auxiliary of International Longshoremen's Association, Local 38-79.

Throughout the state, the delegates determined to organize and direct public opinion to demand that the District Court of Appeals reverse the decision of the trial court and immediately free the eight Sacramento victims of the C. S. Law.

#### SEEK ELECTION PLEDGES

Delegates additionally voted to interview all candidates for public office to obtain their pledges to work for the repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, and to oppose the election of those candidates who will not pledge themselves to work for the repeal of the act.

Mass opinion in support of the campaign will be generated throughout California by means of mass meetings, symposiums, radio broadcasts, open forums, and other means.

The delegates pledged to accept the task of setting up responsible working committees in affiliated organizations, and to establish local committees in their respective counties, to circulate the petition for repeal of the C. S. Act and otherwise carry out the plans and program of the State Campaign Committee.

#### LOCAL CONFERENCES

Within one month, conferences will be called in both Northern California and Southern California to further organize the campaign for repeal by broadening the committee to include all possible people's organizations, and to set quotas of signatures for each participating organization.

Three hundred and forty-three delegates officially represented 231 organizations at the Congress, including 63 American Federation of Labor union and central bodies, and three independent unions, with a membership of 75,567.

Official delegates represented a total of 123,022 members, and 428,000 people were indirectly represented by the Alameda County Central Labor Council, Contra Costa County Central Labor Council. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3.)

## Butler Anti-War Meetings; National Student Strikes

SAN FRANCISCO, April 21.—Frank Belgrano, national commander of the American Legion, declined an invitation to speak on the same program with General Smedley D. Butler, retired commander of the U. S. Marines, at the mass meeting against war and fascism to be held in Dreamland Auditorium here on April 22. The meeting is under the auspices of the American League Against War and Fascism and the American Youth Congress.

A representative of the Northern California Newspaper Guild (union) will speak briefly on the strike against the Hearst Wisconsin News in Milwaukee.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 21.—Arriving here today, fresh from huge mass meetings in Portland and Seattle, General Smedley D. Butler is scheduled to speak Wednesday night of this week at Dreamland Auditorium on "War Is a Racket." General Butler's local appearance has been arranged by the American League Against War and Fascism and the American Youth Congress.

Other speakers include Harry Bridges, whose subject will be "War Cargo," and George Kidwell, Bakery Wagon Drivers leader. John D. Barry, News columnist and liberal, will be chairman. The meeting will start promptly at 8 o'clock.

The following statements of General Butler illuminate his position in the front rank of anti-war and anti-fascist fighters. "The Fighting Quaker" of the Marines, "Old Gimlet Eye," for 35 years agent of American Big Business as the enslaver of and collection agent among the small nations of Central America, is now devoting that same energy and courage which made him one of the world's most famous soldiers to his present battle for human rights against property rights.

The answers quoted to the questions are from the general's most recent speeches and published articles, and include opinions expressed in his Northwest public appearances of only a few days ago.

Q—General Butler, what do you think of the prospects of another

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

### GEN. BUTLER



"They tell us these young men are being trained for peace," Butler says. "Do they expect us to believe these boys are armed for ping-pong or knitting? They are armed for one thing—WAR! Let only those who do the dying declare war—and we'll never have war."

### TRANSPORTATION NEEDED

In order to help the May 10th picnic committee arrange for the transportation to Varsity Park, all Party members, sympathizers, and other workers planning to go to the picnic who have trucks or cars, should begin to register them and the number of people they will be able to take at 121 Haight street. Please do this without delay.

### MAY DAY PICNIC COMMITTEE

BERKELEY, Calif., April 18.—President Robert Gordon Sproul granted permission for the students at the University of California here to hold an open air mass meeting against war in the Greek Theater here at 11 a. m. on April 22nd.

On that day, American students throughout the country are planning strikes and demonstrations against war and fascism.

A dispute over who the speakers at the mass meeting will be has been raised by Monroe Deutch, vice president of the university, acting for Sproul in his absence.

The peace committee of the Associated Students of the University of California proposed three speakers; one from the A. S. U. C., one from the American Students' Union, and one representing the religious groups.

Deutch has rejected the proposals of the students.

The A. S. U. C. has announced that if their proposals are accepted they will release Norman Thomas to speak under university auspices.

Deutch, in a letter to the A. S. U. C., stated that he would not decide definitely on who are to be the student speakers until Thomas had been released by the A. S. U. C. peace committee.

The students, however, feel they have the right to choose their own speakers and have voiced their unwillingness to release Thomas until their proposals have been accepted.

### LOS ANGELES STRIKE

LOS ANGELES, April 18.—"It is up to the vice president," said Dr. Robert G. Sproul, when asked if he had approved of the anti-war strike of students which is being called here Wednesday, April 22.

Dr. Sproul admitted knowledge of the strike but said the entire matter was left in the hands of Provost E. C. Moore.

Students at the University of California at Los Angeles are planning to hold the strike at 1 p. m.

"We have asked Dr. Moore to permit us to change the hour to 11 a. m., but so far he has not given us an answer," said a student leader.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

## AGRICULTURAL STRIKE OPENS NEAR VENICE

### Mexican Federation Wants Pay Raise, Recognition

LOS ANGELES, April 18.—Three hundred agricultural workers in the Venice celery fields walked out on strike yesterday after their demands for wage increases had been refused.

The celery workers are demanding 40 cents an hour and union recognition. They are members of the Mexican Confederation of Unions which is calling a general strike of all agricultural workers of Los Angeles County on Monday, April 20.

The workers responded 100 per cent to the walkout call. Picket lines were set up at all struck farms.

### GENERAL WALKOUT

LOS ANGELES, April 16.—Approximately 6,000 agricultural workers of Los Angeles County, members of the Mexican Confederation of Unions, will come out on a general strike Monday morning, April 20.

After delaying such action for nearly three weeks in an effort to reach an agreement with the Japanese Growers of Southern California, the union set the strike date last night.

Union demands are 35 cents an hour for a 9-hour day, time and a half for overtime, including Sundays and holidays, equal wages to women workers, and union recognition. Present wage rates range from as low as 10 cents an hour to the top pay of 22½ cents an hour.

Workers in the Venice celery district are calling a mass meeting Friday in preparation for the strike Monday. Picket lines will be formed at all farms where workers are on strike.

The Mexican Confederation of Unions has addressed an appeal to all unemployed not to accept jobs in the agricultural fields. All affiliated unions have been notified that they will be informed of all strike activities by special bulletin issued by the Confederation and not to rely on reports published in the capitalist press.

The Confederation is composed of agricultural unions, Japanese, Filipino, Mexican and American unions.

### NOTICE

Due to the fact that General Smedley Butler will speak in Los Angeles on April 24th, the affair of the Mooney-Billings-Scottsboro branch of the International Labor Defense, advertised for this same date, has been called off. Another date will be set in the first part of May.

## EPICS URGE MASS LABOR PARTY

SACRAMENTO, April 19.—Inviting all delegates to the State Congress for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Law, to represent their organizations at the broad May 10th Convention being called by the End Poverty League, Bibbs Tolins, noted Los Angeles Epic, today hailed this coming convention as a step toward the

## Who Is Against Peace on the Waterfront?

The newspaper mouthpieces of the shipowners are raising a great cry that the San Francisco longshoremen's leaders are blocking a settlement. The lockout and the refusal to deal with the elected officials of I. L. A. Local 38-79 on the part of the Waterfront Employers' Association are a direct violation of the 1934 agreement, and they are now trying to cover up this violation by placing conditions on which they will live up to the agreement. What are these conditions?

The employers want to dictate to the longshoremen's union who its officials and representatives should be; they hope to utilize the I. L. A. district officials against the local officials to create division in the union's ranks. The employers are aiming to abolish the dock and gang steward system, the key to rank and file control and democracy in the union. The employers want to penalize union members who will refuse to act as strikebreakers or walk through picket lines.

Faced by the solid support of the labor movement on the entire Pacific Coast for the San Francisco longshoremen, the employers see their position weakening and are trying to throw the blame for the continuance of the lockout on I. L. A. Local 38-79 and its elected leadership. The shipowners now are back-watering and claim they do not want to abolish the hiring hall, after they failed to shake the unity of the West Coast longshoremen on this vital issue.

But they persist in continuing the lockout—they are hoping and speculating on differences among the maritime workers. But they will be sadly disappointed. The maritime workers of every Pacific Coast port, and the trade union movement of Seattle and San Francisco through their Central Labor Councils, have voted full confidence and support to the Longshoremen in their battle. If this unity is maintained, the shipowners will be forced to lift the lockout. But no amount of propaganda on their part can hide their responsibility for precipitating the struggle on the waterfront.

## MILL STRIKERS PLAN COMPLETE FOR MAY DAY

LOS ANGELES, April 18.—With nine shops already settled, and many more being organized and pulled out, the strike of 1300 members of Millmen's Union 884 was progressing toward unequivocal success here today.

Employers have sent a plea to Secretary of Labor Perkins, asking for a mediator, and appear certain to capitulate before the solid ranks of the union.

Although a month ago they stated they could never pay the demanded increase in pay to \$1 an hour minimum, employers have now dropped this point, and it is no longer an issue.

Only issue remaining in the strike is recognition of the union.

The union is utilizing the struggle to gain concrete organizational results, and is now "moving in" on the refrigerator industry with prospects for great union strength. Commercial Refrigerator Company and others are rapidly being organized by the union.

The Millmen are also seeking unity of action with the San Pedro Sawmill and Timber Workers' Union, which is also demanding \$1 per hour and other concessions from the employers. If such unity is achieved, it will also affect Los Angeles workers in planing mills, detail mills, and lumber yards.

Spirit of the striking millmen is high, with no discussion in the union ranks and with complete rank and file control of the strike.

### P. W. U. U. WINS STRIKE

VACAVILLE, Calif., April 20.—A new local of the Public Workers and Unemployed union was formed in Fairfield on April 15. Thirty-five workers joined.

Under the leadership of the union a strike for transportation was called and won.

## PEACE PACT SUPPORTED BY BRIDGES

### Resolution Qualifies Agreement Signed Last Saturday

SAN FRANCISCO, April 21.—Meeting at Dreamland Auditorium here last night, 4000 locked-out longshoremen of I. L. A. 38-79 voted to ratify the tentative agreement which the labor relations committee had signed on Saturday night. The vote followed an appeal by Harry Bridges for ratification. He declared that I. L. A. district officials and the committee from the Central Labor Council had given full assurances that the 1934 Award would be in no sense abrogated by the agreement, nor would local autonomy be impaired. These points were included in a resolution which carefully qualifies the meaning of the agreement.

The agreement will be considered today for ratification by the Waterfront Employers' Association in the light of the I. L. A. resolution. If accepted, work is expected to be resumed at 8 a. m. tomorrow, the time originally set by the agreement.

During the meeting last night a resolution from the Joint Council of Teamsters was read, endorsing the longshoremen's stand and voting confidence in the local's leadership.

OAKLAND, April 21.—The Alameda County Central Labor Council last night voted full support to the I. L. A. in its fight for the right to elect its own officials and maintain the 1934 Award and voted full confidence in Harry Bridges.

LOS ANGELES, April 21.—(By Air Mail.)—William Green wired the Los Angeles Central Labor Council "not to support the West Coast I. L. A. because of their illegal acts," urging support of international officials.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—The taking back to work of all locked out longshoremen will be made the first demand as part of any settlement proposals in all negotiations with the shipowners on the part of Local 38-79, the leaders of San Francisco's fighting dockers stated yesterday.

This fact was especially emphasized after Labor Relations Committee of Local 38-79 had followed a 10-hour conference with the shipowners on Saturday with the signing of a tentative memorandum for settling the lockout. The Labor Relations Committee later repudiated the tentative agreement, stating that they had disobeyed the instructions of the membership in signing such a memorandum, which was neither signed by 38-79's president, Harry Bridges, nor referred to the membership.

### COMMITTEE STATES

The Labor Relations Committee of the local itself stated, in repudiating the tentative agreement, that by having the memorandum underwritten by the District officials of the I. L. A., "We automatically relinquish the autonomy of the Local, which is absolutely unconstitutional and contrary to the instructions of our Local."

In addition to giving the shipowners a loophole to use the District officials to step in and take charge of the local, the tentative agreement guaranteed in no way that all of the locked out longshoremen would be taken back. Furthermore, as the I. L. A. Publicity Committee stated on Monday, "the present agreement still exists and for the officials or committees." (Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

## Disaster Ready for Oakland Unions

OAKLAND, Calif., April 20.—Alameda County police officials and prominent business men met at a secret conference here this afternoon to "discuss preparedness for emergency or disaster" as outlined in the Disaster Preparedness Plan adopted some time ago by the Oakland City Council.

The conference, called by Chief of Police Greening, was held in the office of District Attorney Earl Warren. In attendance, besides police officials, were representatives of such big corporations as the Pacific Gas and Electric, the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph, the Western Pacific Railroad and the Public Utilities Corporation.

Police Chief Greening, authoritative source state, called the meeting because of "labor troubles" which is merely another name for the present waterfront crisis which shipowners have precipitated.

### ANTI-STRIKE PLAN

The Disaster Ordinance itself was quietly sneaked through the Oak-

land City Council piecemeal. Outwardly proposing plans for taking care of those stricken by a major disaster, such as an earthquake or fire, the ordinance actually leaves the definition of what constitutes a "disaster" up to the men who comprise the top committee under the plan.

Prominent on this committee are Mayor McCracken, City Manager Hassler, Elmer Zolner of the American Legion, H. H. Leonard of the P. G. & E., Turner of the Pacific Tel. and Tel., the district attorney and others representing the Red Cross and the police and fire departments.

The original resolution, known as No. 3827, was passed by the council on July 3, 1934, just two days before Bloody Thursday and but two weeks before the general strike in San Francisco and the East Bay.

### DRILL IS HELD

A "Casualty Drill" was provided for under the ordinance was held

on Sunday, October 3, 1935. At this time a system of two-way radio communication between headquarters, patrol cars, airplanes and ships was tested out.

The ordinance also provided for the setting up of "headquarters that can be contacted quickly and quietly."

The plan received the ok of certain reactionary labor union officials but later was fought by progressives in the Alameda Central Labor Council who learned that Quarely Real, official of the Teamsters Local here, was a member of the committee responsible for the plan. Labor sought to revise the ordinance and to elect its own representatives to controlling groups under the plan.

District Attorney Warren, who is one of the leading members of the anti-labor set-up, is heading a Republican slate in the presidential primaries, acting as a stooge for former President Hoover. (See editorial, Page 6.)



# Labor Council Supports ILA in Lockout Struggle

## PUBLIC MASS MEET IS ENDORSED

### Bridges Describes Long Prepared Attack Of Shipowners Before Record Session

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—Last night the largest meeting of the Central Labor Council since the 1934 strike unanimously endorsed a resolution supporting the stand taken by the International Longshoremen's Association, Local 38-79 in their fight against the Waterfront Employers' Association, a long-established rule of the Labor Council was put aside in order to take immediate action. (Resolutions are usually referred to the Executive Committee to report on at the following meeting.)

In an assembly room quiet but tense, Harry Bridges, president of Local 38-79, gave the longshoremen's side of the lock-out. He stated that, "the longshoremen had evidence that the shipowners were planning an attack months ago. We demanded an open congressional investigation last Jan. 27 and warned that the shipowners were planning a campaign of passive resistance along with a publicity campaign."

"In attacking the democratic elected officials of the I. L. A., as being radicals and subversive elements the shipowners are merely trying to camouflage the issue. The longshoremen never voted not to work the Santa Rosa. We voted to work it last Monday and our delegates voted the same way at the District Council of the Federation last Tuesday."

On the question of who wants trouble Bridges declared,

"We have done everything possible to avoid trouble—sometimes we have been criticized for retreating—this time no retreat was allowed us by the shipowners. The trouble is here and we can't avoid it. The press always hollers that we have been violating the award and are doing it again. Every company violates the award 20 or 30 times a day. Sometimes we act but usually we don't. The shipowners acted and cut off our retreat. The employers want to close the hiring hall so they can discriminate and break the award."

Warning that the shipowners are precipitating a coast-wide lock-out, Bridges further said, "If employers continue we know what is coming. Ships are diverted to effect a lock-out here but will eventually lead to a coast-wide lock-out. There will not be an inch of backing up. If the shipowners persist, the whole labor movement in San Francisco will be affected."

Speaking of the District of officials of the I. L. A., he stated, "The district officials at last realize the situation. They can see that the issue affects them. They have declared themselves and we hope that they are sincere. All we want is what we have got and we won't back up. We have the support of all locals on the Sacramento river and we think we are sitting pretty."

Bridges then announced a public mass meeting to be held at Dreamland Auditorium next Thursday at 8 o'clock for the purpose of laying the case of the longshoremen before the public. He invited the shipowners to send a delegate to present their side of the story.

On a motion by Bridges that the council recommend that all other unions attend the mass meeting, Vandeleur, president of the council advised Bridges to withdraw the motion on the grounds that the council can't rule on cases involving other unions. Bridges then changed the motion to read, "that the council urge all unions to attend" and the motion passed unanimously.

After a motion by Earl King, of the Marine Firemen's Union, to give the officials of I. L. A. Local 38-79 a full vote of confidence, Vandeleur adjourned the meeting without calling for a vote, although the motion was seconded by numerous delegates. Vandeleur stated that "the council has already given the longshoremen enough votes of confidence this evening," as he rapped the gavel for adjournment.

## Schedule for General Butler's Mass Meeting

The schedule of anti-war meetings to be addressed by General Butler during his West Coast tour is as follows:

### San Francisco

Dreamland Auditorium, Wednesday evening, April 22nd, 8 o'clock.

### San Jose

State College, Morris Daly Auditorium, Thursday evening, April 23rd.

### Los Angeles

Shrine Auditorium, Friday evening, 8:30 o'clock, April 24th.

### San Pedro

Wilmington Bowl, Saturday evening, April 25th, 8 o'clock.

### San Diego

Monday, April 27th. Details not yet announced.

## Referendum Drive On State C.S. Act Launched at Meet

(Continued from Page 1)

Marin County Central Trades Labor Council, Alameda Building Trades Council, International Labor Defense affiliates, American Youth Congress, American League Against War and Fascism, and American Negro Congress.

### NEARLY 600,000

A total of 591,022 people were represented by official delegates and observers at this historic Congress.

Vitality important was the representation of both the Communist and the Socialist parties.

### UNITY FOR REPEAL

Citing the danger of fascism, Milen Dempster, state chairman of the Socialist Party, stated:

"That won't happen if liberals and radicals combine as they are starting to combine today."

Interrupted by tumultuous applause, Dempster continued:

"As they are starting to combine today to repeal the Criminal Syndicalism Law and to free the Sacramento prisoners."

"We have to get all trade unions with us. We have to get all the 800,000 who voted for Upton Sinclair. We need united efforts. If we can accomplish that, we can and will repeal the C.S. Law."

"This conference," spoke William Schneiderman, District 13 organizer of the Communist Party, "has the task of welding together the forces of the labor movement of the State in order to defeat the growing attacks of the fascist forces in California."

"This law we are trying to repeal is a rope around the neck of the labor movement. Until the rope is cut, until the noose is unloosed, no organization is safe to struggle for its rights and improved conditions."

### LABOR PARTY

"The Communists advocate the building of the unity of labor against the reaction of the ruling class, the building of a Farmer-Labor Party whose first act would be to wipe off the books this C.S. Law."

All mention of a Farmer-Labor Party during the convention was greeted by stormy applause from the delegates.

A collection of \$255.15 in cash and \$138.93 in pledges was taken up. Delegates were urged to secure further copies of the petition, of which 3000 were available at the Congress, from the Northern California office at 68 Haight street, San Francisco; and from the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights, 129 West Second street, Room 320, Los Angeles.

### STUDENTS

(Continued from Page 1)

Students of Los Angeles Junior College will strike against war at 11 a. m. Wednesday morning. A mass meeting will be held in the college auditorium. Edwin Alexander, national organizer of the American Students' Union, will speak.

## Back Newsmen's Strike Against Wisconsin News

### CROCKETT SUGAR UNION MAY AFFILIATE WITH LABOR COUNCIL

RICHMOND, Calif., April 20. The Contra Costa Cent. Lab. Council at its last meeting went on record supporting, both financially and morally, the American Newspaper Guild strike against the Hearst-owned Wisconsin News in Milwaukee.

A chairman was appointed to take charge of collection of funds and all delegates were instructed to assist the committee in getting the unions to contribute. A motion, asking a boycott of the Hearst press, did not pass because no call had been received from the strikers asking this action.

CREAMERY SIGNS UP  
Several reactionary delegates fought the boycott motion because they declared it "interfered with the freedom of the press."

It was reported the Eagle Creamery has agreed to sign up with the union the latter part of May and the picket has been withdrawn. The place had been picketed for more than two weeks.

An attack against non-union barrels will be launched as several shops have been placed on the unfair list. A picket is on duty now in front of a shop at the corner of Twelfth street and McDonald ave. here.

CROCKETT MAY JOIN  
The Sugar Refinery Workers' Union at Crockett has taken up the question of affiliating with the council and delegates from the organization were seated at the meeting. They reported the union comprises 1200 members.

A peace meeting was held at the Carquest Hotel last Monday and the council was to have been represented but withdrew when it was discovered the place is non-union. The matter will be taken up and sponsors will be asked to hold the meeting at a union place.

LOS ANGELES, April 18.—The Los Angeles Central Labor Council will celebrate May 1st as "Child Health Day."

Acting upon a communication from Wm. Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, Secretary Buzzell stated he had invited a doctor from a local children's hospital to speak at the council meeting on that date.

"May 1st is celebrated throughout the world as Labor Day," declared a delegate in opposing Buzzell's action. "The Chamber of Commerce has set aside the first Monday in September as Labor Day, but May 1st is the day that labor celebrates as Labor Day."

Buzzell jumped to the floor and rather heatedly exclaimed, "In other parts of the world May 1st may be celebrated as labor day, but in America we celebrate the 1st Monday in September."

"I take exception to the remarks of the delegate that the Chamber of Commerce sponsors the September labor day. I do not think his remarks should be included in the records and they won't."

The executive board proposed that the Mooney meeting be held in conjunction with the regular council meeting on May 15. Buzzell explained that this was the procedure followed by many other central bodies throughout the State.

"A farce is being made of a great cause," shouted a delegate. A communication from the American Scottsboro Defense Committee, Los Angeles branch, invited the Council to send delegates to a conference at the Lincoln Memorial Congregational Church.

All delegates were urged to attend the General Butler meeting at Trinity Auditorium, Friday, April 24, by a speaker representing the sponsoring committee.

Organized labor in Seattle has come through with unhesitating support of the San Francisco longshoremen in their struggle against the shipowners' lockout. The Seattle local of the International Longshoremen's Association has voted full support to I. L. A. Local 38-79 against the lockout.

A joint meeting of the Marine Firemen and Oilers, the Cooks and Stewards and the Sailors' Union also voted support against the Frisco lockout and expressed full confidence in Local 38-79 and its leadership. The joint meeting condemned the attempt of the shipowners to dictate to the Frisco dockers who their leaders shall be. The Seattle Central Labor Council has adopted a resolution pledging support to Local 38-79 on the Santa Rosa issue.

Harry Bridges was officially invited by the Washington District Council of the Maritime Federation to speak at a mass meeting in Seattle which was to have been held Monday night.

### SAN PEDRO

SAN PEDRO.—Complete endorsement of the policy of I. L.

## "Disband K.K.K." Communist Slogan In Florida Trial

BARTOW, Fla., April 16.—Charged with kidnaping E. F. Poulnot, union organizer, in connection with the brutal murder of Joseph Shoemaker, unemployed leader, seven former Tampa police officers were on trial here today.

First witness in the prosecution's case testified that Tampa policemen raided a private home and questioned persons in the house without a search warrant.

Although conditions of extreme terror are prevalent here, District 25 of the Communist Party covered Bartow with a leaflet demanding a fair trial in the case.

"Disband the K. K. K." "Build the People's Front Against the Klan," and "Build a Farmer-Labor Party" were the slogans raised by the Communist Party, which has led the fight to bring the murderers of Shoemaker to justice against the opposition of many "prominent citizens."

As the trial started, investigation was turning toward Fred McLendon Bass, "hogging commission man of the Klan," and many other Klansmen who hold prominent civic offices in Orange County.

## UNION EXPELS TROTSKYITE FACTION

BERKELEY, Calif., April 15.—A Trotskyite faction, which recently joined the Socialist Party, was expelled from the Union of Professional Workers for disruptive activity here last night.

At a large union meeting charges were brought against about seven Trotskyites, including, Barney Moss, Joan London, Beatrice Lee, Grant Cannon, Frank Lovell, Kerry Gannon, other disruptive followers, J. B. Nathan, Andrew Eggen, Wm. Howard and George Grayden for carrying on activity to break up the Union of Professional Workers by setting up a dual union, collaborating with the WPA administration, raising the red scare and on other charges equally damaging. They were expelled by unanimous vote.

## BELIEVE IT OR NOT! MAY DAY IS CHILD HEALTH DAY IN L. A.

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## General Smedley Butler Speaks on War As a Racket for Big Business

(Continued from Page 1)

war? A.—Every indication at present points to another world war. Q.—Where do you think this war will start?

A.—In Europe. Those fellows are going to war as sure as you're born.

Q.—What is the position of the United States in this regard?

A.—The business rulers of this country and the politicians who dance to their tune, are now preparing the greatest war in history. Q.—What is the relation between foreign internal economic difficulties and the onrush of war?

A.—Their people are getting out of control. So these so-called leaders must point out and attack some foreign objective, if they are to remain in control. With many of them it is a question of a foreign war or being overthrown. None of these dictators is willing to cut his own throat. Hence this war.

Q.—What do you think about this country's huge armament expenditures "for defense"?

A.—With the present line-up of nations the world over, it is inconceivable that any of them would or could take time out to invade the United States. They are all as busy as they can be trying to digest huge bites they have taken, and it will be years before the digesting is in such shape that can turn their attention to us. There is no one nation fool enough to try it single-handed anyway. And will someone please point out any possible combination of nations hostile to us for years to come?

Q.—What do you think we should do to stop war, General Butler?

A.—I would like to see a general strike of the workers against war. We have to fight war now. Get out on the streets and parade. Don't let the war crowd have the show all to themselves. And stop shipments of goods the moment war starts.

Q.—What goods—and to whom?

A.—All goods—to all nations—whether they are at war or not—the moment war starts anywhere. Have Congress forbid all trade of every kind with everyone from the day war starts. In a modern war every product is some kind of war implement. You can't trade, even with a neutral nation, during war, and expect that nation not to act as go-between for one of the belligerents—a sort of master bootlegger of munitions.

And see that Congress writes into the law a command that no soldier, sailor or marine is to be used for any purpose except to protect the coast line of the United States—protect his home—and I MEAN his home, too—not an oil well in Iraq, a British investment in China, a sugar plantation in Cuba, a silver mine in Mexico, a glass factory in Japan, an American share of stock in a European factory; in short, not an American investment except at home. . . . Let Congress say to all our foreign investors: "Come on home or let your money stay out of the country; we will not defend it."

Q.—On what do you base these opinions, General Butler?

A.—I spent 35 years with the biggest bill-collecting agency in the world, the U. S. Marines. Then I woke up.

Q.—Where did you do your fighting?

A.—I served in every rank, from

private to general, and half that time was spent on foreign soil fighting for the benefit of American bankers. But now I've sworn that I'll never fight again in a war outside our borders, nor let my three sons fight, even if I have to shoot the conscription officer who comes to take us.

Q.—How about conscription in the last war?

A.—The American people would not have supported the last war if they'd had a chance to vote on it. I was on the inside of that war, and I can testify that between the war declaration of April 6th and the beginning of conscription at the end of the month only 38,000 persons volunteered. The War Department got scared and instituted the universal draft. They got three million.

Q.—You served in China and the Philippines, General, did you not?

A.—I did. And imperialism started in the Far East when the British India Company, a gang of racketeers much like our own United States Steel Company, forced the opium trade on China and stole Hongkong. The record of the United States is no better.

Q.—What is your position on Fascism, General?

A.—I hate Fascism as much as I hate war. I am frankly and wholly on the side of labor.

Q.—In view of your experience as head of the Philadelphia police, what about the use of armed force against strikers? And what about these forces as instruments of the public will?

A.—I am absolutely opposed to the use of national guard or any army equipment in strikes. The police, like our other armed forces are creatures of the political machine. They must bend to the will of the administration in power, or those who control the administration in power. The army, navy, and national guard do so. The police are not exempt.

Q.—What have you to say about President Roosevelt?

A.—I made fifty speeches for Roosevelt in 1932, but I'm sorry now I did.

Q.—What do you think of compulsory military training in the colleges of the country?

A.—It's an interference with American liberty.

Q.—Didn't you once say you were losing faith in capitalism?

A.—I said that I have believed that capitalism could be controlled to give the workers a fair break. But I confess my faith in capitalism is steadily growing weaker.

LOS ANGELES, April 21.—General Smedley D. Butler will address a mass meeting here in the Shrine Auditorium on Friday night, April 24th. The meeting is under the auspices of a public reception committee which includes:

Lester W. Roth, justice of Superior Court, chairman; Antonio Entenza, veteran of Foreign Wars; William Stanek, American Legion; Francis E. Evans, British consul; Charles Winsel, Belgian consul; Jean-Joseph Viala, French consul; Laurence W. Beilenson, counsel Screen Writers and Screen Actors' Guild; Mrs. Anna Westing, Business and Professional Women's Club; Major J. O. Donovan, executive secretary of the Screen Directors' Guild; Col. Louis E. Bennett, U. S. Army, retired; W. O. Mendenhall.

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The Labor Relations Committee, which signed the tentative agreement, in later repudiating the memorandum, stated that it found on further analysis that by the district officials undervalue the memorandum, "we automatically relinquish the autonomy of the local. For local authority the San Francisco longshoremen have fought and intend to fight bitterly."

### SLOSS INVOLVED

Judge M. C. Sloss, arbitrator appointed by U. S. Secretary of Labor Perkins, was one of those instrumental in bringing about the attempt to put over the repudiated memorandum, and it was stipulated that he was also to underwrite the memorandum.

A stream of assurances of support makes Frisco longshoremen, locked out last week by the shipowners, who used the dockers' refusal to work the Grace Line Santa Rosa when they were informed that it was being manned by a scab crew, are all the more determined to fight the shipowners' attempt to decide on who the officials of the local shall be and to take away the hiring hall and other gains won through bitter struggle. Sailors, Firemen, Cooks and Stewards, Bargemen, Pile Drivers, Sealers, Warehousemen, Radio Operators, Ship Caulkers, the Labor Councils of Frisco and Seattle, and clerks, warehousemen, longshoremen and bargemen from up the river are but a few of the organizations which hastened to pledge full support to Local 38-79.

PORTLAND, Ore.—Two thousand members of the Columbia River area of the Maritime Federation on Sunday night heard Harry Bridges speak on the situation on the San Francisco waterfront, and gave him a rising vote of confidence.

WAREHOUSEMEN BACK STOCKTON.—A pledge of complete support has been wired the San Francisco longshoremen by Stockton Warehousemen's Local 38-93 of the I. L. A. An emphatic "No" was the answer of the Stockton local when the Grace Line asked if they would work the Santa Rosa.

Local 38-44, I. L. A. Warehousemen of the Bay area, with a membership of 2500, adopted a resolution of full support to Local 38-79. The Warehousemen's resolution stated that "the warehousemen refuse to work with any longshoremen except those hired through the hiring hall."

REBUKES BRUCE  
SAN DIEGO.—How San Diego Local of I. L. A. rebuked Elmer Bruce for an attack on Harry Bridges and the San Francisco local's leadership was learned here today.

Bruce, who no longer dares to attack Bridges directly in his own local, went to a special meeting Wednesday night in San Diego. After listening to his tirade, the

## COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION ENDORSED BY ALAMEDA COUNTY LABOR BODY

### I. S. U. International Officials Called "Agents of Shipowners"

OAKLAND, Calif., April 14.—Several weeks ago a letter from Wm. Green, president of the American Federation of Labor demanded that all labor councils and federal unions have nothing whatever to do with the Committee for Industrial Organization headed by Lewis of the Miners' Union. In defiance of this order from Green the Alameda County Central Labor Council last evening passed a resolution presented by the Typographical Union, endorsing the formation and activities of the C. I. O.

Breen, of the Gardeners' Union, coerced an amendment that the resolution be held in abeyance "till we receive instructions from Green."

A new delegate opposed this saying, "I was a member of the German trade unions for thirty years. It was just such tactics as this, and craft unions instead of industrial unionism, that permitted Hitler to gain control in Germany." He said further, "Must we always go and ask papa before we can do anything?" The amendment was voted down almost unanimously.

Brother Sullivan of the Machinists' Union was elected official delegate to the Anti-Criminal Syndicalism Conference in Sacramento, with all expenses paid by the Council.

### ARBITRATION ENDED

After 13 months of fruitless efforts to arbitrate differences, the Bakery and Confectionary Workers' Union declared all agreements with the manufacturing bakers of Alameda County void and cancelled.

Upon request of the council for help in organizing the cannery workers into the Cannery Workers' Union, Joe Casey was here last week conferring on the situation.

### I. S. U. REPLY

A letter was received from the Executive Board of the Interna-

rational Seamen's Union explaining that the charter of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific was revoked because of alleged "violations of the existing agreements." Some weeks ago the council passed a resolution in support of the S. U. P. in their demand that their charter be returned. The letter from the I. S. U. was ordered filed.

### WATERFRONT SITUATION

Delegate Heide of the Warehousemen's Union, I. L. A. 38-44, gave a detailed report of the situation on the waterfront. He exposed the international officials of the I. S. U. as agents of the shipowners.

### REACTIONARY OUSTED

The Grocery Clerks' Union reported they have kicked out Mr. Lyle, their reactionary business agent. He no longer represents them.

### BLOW AT HEARST

A letter from the Milwaukee Newspaper Guild asked for financial aid and the setting up of a committee to gain such aid from the various unions. The council appointed a committee and donated \$20.00.

Delegate Wolters, reporting for the committee set up to investigate the American Student Union, ridiculed Edward Vandeleur, secretary of the State Federation of Labor, for his statement that the organization is "Communist controlled and officered."

## ILA Vote

(Continued from Page 1)

mittees of 38-79 to be party to any re-interpretation or additional provision to the award laid down by the national longshoremen's arbitration board at the end of the 1934 strike would also be a violation of that award which has been in existence nearly two years. . . . Without agreement of the membership it is impossible for the officials or committees of the I. L. A. to be party to do anything as basic as a new agreement or changes in the present award."

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# BRITAIN NEGOTIATING FOR POWER IN EGYPT

## New Pact Desired to Assure a Strong Military Base

By Reginald Bridgeman.  
International Secretary of the  
League Against Imperialism.  
(Reprinted from the London  
Daily Worker.)

Negotiations are taking place in Cairo for a new Treaty between Britain and Egypt. Whether it will be possible to reach agreement is not certain.

The conditions imposed by imperialist Britain may be found to be so onerous that even a nation as determined to win national freedom as the Egyptians may hesitate to accept them.

The negotiations opened in the Zafraan Palace on March 2. The leader of the Egyptian delegation, Nafas Pasha, after welcoming the British delegation, said that the crisis which was threatening to disturb the peace of the world showed the necessity for an agreement which would link the two nations together in all eventualities, whether good or evil.

### SECRET TALKS

Since March 2, the negotiations, which are still in the exploratory stage of conversations, have been kept secret. Even the British statement of the military problems confronting Egypt has not been made public.

The object of the conversations is to find a basis for the final settlement of the points which were left over when Britain declared Egypt independent in 1922.

These points are: (1) The security of British communications; (2) defense against aggression; (3) protection of foreign interests and the capitulations; (4) the Sudan.

The composition of the British delegation reveals the determination of Britain to wring military concessions from Egypt. In addition to the High Commissioner, the Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, the Inspector-General of the Royal Air Force and the General Officer commanding the troops in Egypt.

### ARMY OF OCCUPATION

The British delegation is making capital out of the Italian attack on Ethiopia and the concentration of a large Italian force in Libya on the western frontier of Egypt, in order to impress the Egyptians with a sense of their military weakness and to convince them of the necessity of agreeing to the presence of a much stronger British Army of occupation than that of 11,000 men, including the air force, agreed to in the draft treaty of 1930, to be stationed only in the Suez Canal zone.

The Egyptians are being asked whether such a number would today suffice, with the Egyptian army, to defend the western frontier of Egypt. Would not the transport of British troops from the canal to the west take too long?

Egypt desires to enter the League of Nations as an independent State, but it seems as if she will be forced to accept a military alliance with Britain first. Thus she will not in reality be free and independent by the time she acquires the semblance of autonomy.

### MILITARY CLAUSES

The military clauses of the treaty which Egypt will be invited to sign will provide for a British military establishment in Egypt on a much larger scale and having a much greater scope than was provided for in 1930.

The argument will probably be used that in order to give the fullest possible effect to the proposed alliance, British and Egyptian troops ought to be on the same footing, work and play together in peace time, and that the headquarters of the British garrison might be in or near Cairo.

The Egyptians will be unwilling to agree to this demand. They will feel that it is dictated not so much by the question of strategic necessity as with the object of maintaining political control of their country by means of armed force.

Then there is the question of the British Navy, which although it was scarcely mentioned in the 1930 draft Treaty, is obviously of the highest importance insofar as the defense of Egypt is concerned. In case of hostilities, the 1930 draft stipulated that Egypt was to place her ports, aerodromes

## ANOTHER KIND OF NEGOTIATION



Bricks were thrown by British cops and streams of water turned on by Cairo students as they tangled after anti-British demonstrations in Egypt's capital city recently. The demand for independence is so strong in Egypt that Britain is contemplating granting her a fake independence similar to America's gesture toward the Philippine Islands, or Japan's "autonomy" movement in the North China provinces.

## Iceland Under the Thumb of British Imperialism; Is Strategic War Base

### OIL TRUSTS AND BANKERS OWN AND OPERATE INDUSTRIES

Iceland is virtually controlled by British finance capital, the direct investment of Britain through loans being about 4 million pd. The powerful British oil trusts, "Shell" and "Anglo-Persian" (British Petroleum Co.) have built large tank stations in Iceland to be used for supplying British steamers in case of war.

These trusts monopolize the market and control Icelandic fisheries. British coal trusts have 77 per cent of the coal markets. Bowring & Company, another British corporation has possession of all the fishmeal factories. By making members of Parliament in Iceland members and directors of these various trusts, service in their behalf is assured.

and railways at the disposal of Britain.

The navy will require a naval base in Egypt, and a base moreover which is adequately protected. The Suez Canal Convention of 1888 provides the fortification of Port Said. There remain only Alexandria in the Mediterranean and Port Ibrahim on the Red Sea, in addition to Akaba, which is believed to be in course of development by the Admiralty as a submarine base.

A few weeks ago the British Government spontaneously offered to contribute 10,000 Pound to the Egyptian Government to assist the dredging of Alexandria Harbour.

Any proposal for the permanent retention of Alexandria as a British naval depot will be opposed by the Egyptians on the same grounds on which they oppose the maintenance of a permanent British garrison at Cairo.

### THE SUDAN

As regards the Sudan, it is clear that the British Government intends to eliminate Egyptian control permanently and to establish an exclusive British control.

Here the principal of self-determination must be strictly followed. The Sudan must not be made a bargaining counter between Britain and Egypt, neither must the Sudanese people or any portion of them be handed over to Egypt without their own wishes on the subject of their future administration having been ascertained by means of some kind of plebiscite which will afford them the chance of choosing complete national autonomy.

### "EQUALITY"

Under the guise of "equality," Great Britain is endeavoring to foist upon the people of Egypt a treaty of military occupation which is tantamount to complete British domination. The occupation of the Rhineland by Fascist hordes shocks the conscience of British statesmen. The sanctity of Treaties has been broken, they cry.

The occupation of Egypt and the Sudan by the British, on the other hand, seems not to upset the tender susceptibilities of the British ruling class.

## Letter from Jack Crane, C. S. Victim

### TERM FIXED AT FIVE YEARS

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—Jack Crane, No. 57605, one of the five Criminal Syndicalism prisoners held in San Quentin penitentiary, addressed the following letter to the International Labor Defense immediately after the State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles fixed his sentence at five years:

"The much awaited event has happened; we appeared before the Prison Board of Terms and Paroles and we have received our definite term. I can only speak for myself, and I suppose you will hear from the others later on.

"My time has been fixed at five years and I have been denied a parole. I am, however, eligible to appear before the board again next year; this time for further consideration. With this term set and my good time deducted, it means that I must serve three years and seven months solid time before I may go free.

"Judging from the interview I had with the board, one can readily see that I am not here because of supposedly overt act but because of my political opinions. My beliefs will always be the same until realized. Knowing that the workers are coming to our support lightens my sentence a thousand fold.

"Comradely,  
"Jack Crane."

there. Great Britain, however, has forbidden Denmark to grant this company a corresponding license in Greenland, which is necessary in order that the Icelandic airports be of use. Other countries, notably Germany and Italy, have also made air expenditures over Iceland.

Internally, Iceland, with a population of only 110,000 has a total national "wealth" of about \$50,000,000, 1/3 of which is owed to foreign capital. 90 per cent of the population is poor, the average income of a worker being \$300 to \$400 a year.

## United Front Victory Forecast in French Ballot

### CRUCIAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR LAST SUNDAY IN APRIL

## Violence Is Expected From Croix de Feu Fascist Group

By PIERRE VAN PAASEN

Federated Press.  
PARIS.—(FP)—The People's Front will poll a majority, probably up to 85 per cent, of the votes in the French general elections to be held the last Sunday in April and the first Sunday in May.

On the first ballot, each of the parties represented in the united front will vote for its own candidate. On the second ballot, a week later, they will vote for the candidate of that united front party which obtained the most votes in the first turn. This is the agreement. The watchword is: "Chase the Fascists from parliament! Beat reaction!" With the aid of the Radical Socialists, powerful middle class liberal party led by Edouard Daladier, victory is assured in spite of all the maneuvers undertaken by reaction to throw the electorate into confusion.

### SCARE CAMPAIGN

Among the tricks yet to be tried are a financial scare, false rumors of a German invasion, possibly a political assassination or two and violent manifestations by the Fascist leaguers in the streets.

In the People's Front are represented: the liberal party led by Edouard Daladier and Edouard Herriot; the Socialist Party led by Leon Blum and Jean Longuet; the latter the grandson of Karl Marx; the Socialist Union; the Pupist Party (that is, the party of proletarian unity) and the Communists under Sen. Marcel Cachin and Paul Vaillant-Couturier.

Further represented in this united front are: an ex-soldier organization of 2,000,000 members; the school teachers' federation of France, 180,000 strong; the anti-Fascist intellectuals comprising the foremost literary figures in France and a majority of university professors; the League for Human Rights; the women's peace league; the association of revolutionary artists and writers; the

society to combat anti-Semitism, and 41 minor nation-wide civic organizations.

### TRADE UNION MERGER

The greatest single victory of the People's Front so far was the just-completed merger into one body of the Socialist and Communist trade unions. They are one organization from now on. But the reaction is not beaten yet. The Fascists promise riots after the elections in the event of a united front victory. They claim to have 10,000 secret arms depots all over France. Five of such depots containing machine guns, rifles, bombs and revolvers were discovered by accident in a week.

To frighten the middle class, the reactionary press published scare lines recently announcing the arrival of Bela Kun in Barcelona. Bela Kun was head of the short-lived Soviet government of Hungary. He resides in Moscow. Bela Kun, the reactionary press announced, had arrived in Barcelona to advise the People's Front government of Spain in the setting up of a red terror!

The Bela Kun scare burst like

## French Capitalism's Attempt to Imitate Nazi Germany



But the workers were not to be caught napping this time. With the terrible example of fascism in Germany as a warning, the French working class formed a powerful united front against fascism which has prevented the fascist Croix de Feu organization

from seizing power. Col. de la Rocque of the Croix de Feu is seen above addressing a mass meeting of his followers in a forest clearing near Meaux, France. Violence is expected from this organization in the coming struggle at the polls.

a bubble after four days' excitement. Bela Kun never left Moscow. He never was in Barcelona in his life. Edouard Herriot, chief of the right-wing liberals and a leading figure in the united front movement, declared: "This scare showed how hopelessly ignorant and base the Fascist scare-mongers are. What could a man like Bela Kun, who knows neither French nor Spanish, do in Barcelona?... Moscow, more than any other government in Europe, stands for order and the maintenance of democratic institutions."

### FASCIST PROPAGANDA

The cry of the reaction is: the People's Front intends to push France into war with Hitler. Several French Fascist mass meetings closed this week with the cry of "Heil Hitler!" Such is the patriotism of men whose country is actually menaced by a formidable German army and whose nation is marked down by Hitler in his book, My Battle, as the hereditary foe of Germany who must be "vernichtet" (annihilated).

"The People's Front intends no violence. It has no secret depots of arms," say the election posters of the left. "The Peo-

ple's Front intends to preserve France from being turned into a huge slave camp like Germany and Italy. The joint program of the People's Front parties is to attack the privileges of the 200 families who own the steel, mining and armament trusts and to nationalize these industries. The government of the People's Front will wipe out the domination of the Bank of France in political matters! The People's Front battles for peace, order, bread and freedom!"

Faced by defeat at the polls, the so-called parties of law and order on the right excite the Fascist league to suspend the operation of democratic institutions and plunge the country into chaos by their violence. It avails them nothing! French liberals are not going to make the mistake of German liberals and stand by idly while the Fascists smash working class organizations and kill or imprison workers' leaders. The People's Front of France marches to victory as the People's Front of Spain has done already. The road of Fascism in the world runs downward from this moment onward.

# Future Dupes of Future Slaughter Thumb their Nose at Big Business

## A BACKHANDED SLAP AT WAR MONGERS



The charter members of the "Veterans of Future Wars," who want their bonuses before, rather than after, they die. They are supported by the "Gold Star Mothers of Future Wars," and the "Chaplains of Future

Wars." Their demand is opposed by the "Profiteers of Future Wars," and the "Gold Diggers' Auxiliary of the Profiteers of Future Wars."

## HERE IS THE BLOODY RECORD OF THE LAST WAR IN MOUNTAINS OF BONES AND ACRES OF GRAVES

### Every Murdered Skull Was Cashed for Profits in Wall Street

#### COSTS OF WORLD WAR 1914-1918 IN DEATH AND SUFFERING

10,000,000 known dead soldiers of the 60,000,000 who participated in the war.  
6,000,000 reported missing, about 3,000,000 of them dead.  
20,000,000 or more wounded.  
28,000,000 civilians dead from disease, famine, pestilence, resulting from the war (Prof. Hersch, Swedish statistician).  
9,000,000 war orphans.

#### SOME UNITED STATES LOSSES

10,000,000 war widows.  
10,000,000 rendered homeless (refugees).  
120,000 American soldiers killed in action and dead from other causes.  
182,700 wounded.  
MONEY COSTS OF WORLD WAR  
\$208,500,000,000 net direct cost for all countries involved. (Bankers' Trust Co. estimate.)

#### \$152,000,000,000 indirect cost for all countries involved. (Prof. Bogart estimate.)

\$244,000,000 was average daily expenditure of all countries in war in 1918.  
MONEY COSTS TO UNITED STATES  
\$1,000,000 an hour was average expenditure of United States government during its participation in the war.  
\$51,000,000,000 was the net cost of World War to United States government alone up to 1931—five years ago—according to Andrew W. Mellon, then secretary of the Treasury. (The figure \$40,000,000,000 is given by Prof. Paul V. Horn in his International Trade. But this assumes that all war debts owing the United States will be paid. This is, of course, out of the question, so that ultimately the World War costs to the United States, it is estimated, may be almost doubled, or nearly \$80,000,000,000.)

### WHO BENEFITED?

\$12,000 (approximately) was made by the capitalist class of the world for every soldier killed in the war.

25 per cent to 3000 per cent profits were made by leading American corporations during war years.  
25,000 known millionaires reported their incomes in the United States in 1918, compared with only 7500 in 1914.  
\$337,000,000 net profits reported by 18 leading United States corporations for war period 1916-18, compared with \$74,650,000 for pre-war period, 1912-14.

E. I. duPont de Nemours & Co., powder and chemical company, cleared \$255,500,000 in net profits in five years, 1914-1918. Dividends paid in 1915-1919 totaled \$139,000,000.

### MATHEMATICAL GENIUS

Boris Kornblum, 12-year-old Kiev school boy and mathematical genius, will be the youngest delegate at the forthcoming Congress of Ukrainian Scientists. He will read a paper on the theory of numbers.

All prodigies in the Soviet Union are provided for by the State, and every effort is made to secure maximum all-round development and prevent one-sided growth.

Boris, who receives 500 rubles monthly from the Ukrainian Education Department, is being instructed by the noted mathematical expert, Professor Khvachik.

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## FINANCIERS HIT BY SONS AND DAUGHTERS

NEW YORK, April 18.—On April 22nd, university campuses in every part of America will see students turning out in thousands for the nationwide strike against war. Initiated by the students themselves, these annual demonstrations in most colleges have been bitterly opposed by the Regents and authorities whose bread is buttered in Wall Street. Last year saw the campuses of the nation turned into bloody battle fields in many places where police and plainclothesmen were brought in to slug the demonstrators, girls and men alike.

Since last year, the strength of student organizations has grown and school authorities, in many cases, have been forced to grant permission for the demonstrations.

### SOMETHING NEW

Significant among anti-war developments since last year, is a remarkable movement among the wealthier class of students. Based largely on intellectual disgust with the corruption and insanity which underlies war, and masquerading as a "college prank," the movement has nevertheless stricken Wall Street jingoes with fear and dismay.

In Princeton University a few months ago, a group of students including the sons of many prominent American figures, organized what they called "The Veterans of Future Wars," and immediately launched a sarcastic campaign demanding payment of a bonus immediately in order that they might enjoy it before being slaughtered in the coming war.

### VERY CATCHING

The "sag" caught on and swept like wildfire through Eastern colleges. At Vassar girls college, the students quickly mobilized the "Gold Star Mothers of the Veterans of Future Wars," and began arranging trips to Europe in order that future mothers might view the future graves of their future sons.

At the University of Virginia, students organized the "Profiteers of Future Wars," with William J. Dietrich, son of Senator William H. Dietrich, as head of the lobby committee.

The PFW has proclaimed its purpose is to garner profits from future contracts for war materials and has launched a mock campaign to resist payment of an advance bonus to the "Veterans of Future Wars."

### GOLD DIGGERS

At Russell Sage College in Troy, the girls have started a "Gold Diggers' Auxiliary of the Profiteers of Future Wars."

Students of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Omaha, Neb., have organized the first chapter of the "Chaplains of Future Wars," and have proclaimed the following "beatitudes":

"Blessed are the religious counselors of future veterans, for they shall be bonused."

"Blessed are the war makers, for they shall be called sons of American wars."

"Blessed are the patriotically pure in heart, for they shall have office jobs in Washington."

### RED-BAITERS

Wealthy financiers and industrial magnates fear that their offspring are getting "out of hand," and the future wars organizations are being deluged with infuriated protests from their red-baiting elders.

Faculties all over the country are splitting on the hard rock of the issue. Some professors are leaguish with those who view the move as an insult to the Holy Ghost of capitalism. Others heartily endorse the movement.

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# Editors, Doctors, Professors Testify for Frazier-Lundeen Bill

## TEACHERS' FEDERATION HEAD TAKES CRACK AT RED-BAITERS

MODESTO, Calif., April 20—The newly organized unit of the Associated Farmers of California here has attacked a local high school teacher because of his membership in the California Federation of Teachers.

The Federation of Teachers, a bona fide A. F. of L. organization with locals in California since 1919, recently held a convention at Palo Alto where several progressive resolutions were passed.

Cooperating with the local Associated Farmers is the Modesto Bee, McClatchy-owned newspaper. McClatchy cooperated with the Associated Farmers during 1934 and 1935 when that organization took a prominent part in framing eight young agricultural union organizers.

The Associated "Farmers" unit here is composed of the upper strata of wealthy growers, all of them arch enemies of labor. A resolution adopted by this group calls upon the local board of education to conduct a "thorough investigation of teachers suspected of subversive activities." It also declares "school authorities and the public generally have condemned the Federation."

LOS ANGELES, April 21—In an article printed in the Hollywood Citizen-News of April 8, S. W. Wuxman, president of the California Federation of Teachers, talks back to the Hearst press and State Superintendent of Schools Vierling Kersey, both of whom seek to intimidate teachers and keep them from organizing.

Following is a reprint of a major portion of Mr. Wuxman's article:

The matter in question is the American Federation of Teachers affiliated with the American Federation of Labor since 1916, and having locals throughout the State of California since 1919. This may be "news" to alert reporters, although for most forward-looking teachers of California have been paying dues to this union for over 17 years. This national organization, the American Federation of Teachers, has no less than 460 locals throughout the nation, totalling an active, paid-up and intelligent membership of 25,000.

"Democracy in Education" Do these two principles stamp a teacher as disloyal to this state and nation? Do they indicate an attitude that expresses a desire for subversive activities? These

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## Workers' School Plans New Term

SAN FRANCISCO.—Preparations for the spring term of the San Francisco Workers' School are under way. Planning to open May 18th and continue through July 10th, the school once again offers to the workers and professionals of San Francisco an opportunity to receive a fundamental understanding of the issues and problems before the people in the United States in a varied group of subjects which will be of interest to all.

Some new features of the school are the subjects in: Communism in 1936, a course in Current Events, a course in Parliamentary Procedure and Aid to Speakers, and a series of light lectures on Marxism-Leninism to be conducted by outstanding authorities on the subject. In addition of course, the school offers courses in History of the Labor Movement, Trade Union Problems, Political Economy, elementary and advanced, as well as a number of others.

All workers interested in taking courses in the spring term can write or come up to the school office, 121 Haight street, room 3. Do not delay to write in for the curriculum which gives more details on the courses offered. Register now—and bring your friends.

## THE UPPER CRUST - - By Redfield



"Major got this one for being the best dressed man in the regiment."

## SOCIAL WORKER TELLS GROUP JOBLESS CARE IS INADEQUATE

### Woman Doctor Debates With Sen. Walsh On Need for Birth Control Clinics

WASHINGTON.—(FP)—An interesting debate between a staid, gray-haired New England lady and Sen. David I. Walsh (D. Mass.), very proper New England Senator, on the subject of birth control and abortions, marked hearings on the Frazier-Lundeen Workers' Social Insurance bill before the Senate subcommittee on education and labor.

The gray haired lady was Dr. Emily Pierson, Cromwell, Conn. Others who testified were Walter West, American Association of Social Workers, Ralph J. Bunche, professor of economics at Howard University, and John Nagy, editor of Uj Elore, Hungarian labor paper in Cleveland, Ohio.

**HIGH DEATH RATE**  
Dr. Pierson pointed out to the subcommittee that the rate of infant mortality among the lowest income groups is much higher than the infant mortality rate in the highest income group and that as income rises the infant mortality rate decreases. She also pointed out that the number of mothers dying in childbirth from preventable diseases is much greater among

mothers in the low income groups. Asked by Walsh whether she thought birth control would solve the problem, Dr. Pierson said that it would only help. She pointed out that mothers in the low income groups are unable to get birth control information available to persons in higher income groups. Challenged by Walsh as to the effect that birth control would have on population growth Dr. Pierson promptly told him that in the Soviet Union the free dissemination of birth control information has gone along with a doubling of the birth rate.

She said she had been there, studied the problem and had been very much impressed. She again pointed out that birth control information would solve only a small part of the problem. "Mothers want to have babies," she declared, "but they want to have babies worth bringing up."

**ASSIST LOW-PAID**  
She favored the Frazier-Lundeen bill on the grounds that it would assist the lowest income groups to maintain some living standard consistent with American productive capacity.

West quoted figures used by President Roosevelt in urging a \$1,500,000,000 relief appropriation for the next fiscal year. He pointed out that the \$800,000,000 on federal work relief are not all drawn from relief rolls and that many on relief rolls are not reached by federal aid at all. Regarding the 1,500,000 "unemployables," whom the President declared the states and localities must care for, West said that 2,800,000 was the true figure. He objected to the use of the word "unemployable" because, he said, "that implies social uselessness and nobody over 8 or under 100 is socially useless."

**NOT ENOUGH SPENT**  
West also pointed out that to take care of the 2,800,000 who can look only to the states and localities for care, \$1,200,000,000 would be needed if FERA standards of relief were to be maintained. When relief budgets were highest in 1935 only \$460,000,000 was spent for these people, he charged.

Favoring the Frazier-Lundeen bill for a federal system of social security, West reminded the subcommittee that most states finance relief costs by sales taxes which fall most heavily on those least able to pay. In addition many states have legal bars which prevent a unified federal system of social security.

Bunche quoted figures showing that teachers and professional groups, as well as unskilled laborers, have suffered from the depression and urged the Frazier-Lundeen bill as a substitute for the present measures which provide no benefits for professional people. Nagy testified that more and more groups are coming to endorse the Frazier-Lundeen bill and that Hungary had social insurance from 1907 until recently when it was abolished by the present regime.

**MOSCOW.—(FP)—**The number of teachers in the Soviet Union has nearly tripled since 1928. An appropriation of 1.2 billion rubles has just been assigned to finance a wage increase to teachers.

**MOSCOW.—(FP)—**Health resorts in the Crimea and Caucasus—the Soviet Florida—will accommodate 140,000 workers during the coming season.

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## How "Mysterious" Carrano Led L. A. Milliners

By a Member of Milliners' Local 48.

For the last six months the millinery workers of Los Angeles were led to believe by the organizer and manager of Local No. 48, Fred Carrano, that the best way to reorganize trade and workers after last year's unsuccessful strike was to "lay low, pretend the union was completely dead, have no meetings, issue no leaflets or propaganda of any kind and just pretend generally that we, the union, have completely capitulated, in order to throw the bosses off their guard until such time as he, Carrano, would see fit to wake up the town with a bang, a "bomb shell."

### HUSH, HUSH TACTICS

When some of the workers interested in building a union would come up to the office and ask the organizer questions as to how and what we were doing and what were the preparations for the oncoming season. The only answer anybody got was, "Trust me. Have faith in me. Leave everything to me." And that for a solid six months, until everybody was waiting anxiously to see what he had in store for us. This method of acting as a one-man union was Carrano's policy ever since he took office. He set himself up as a virtual dictator with no accounting to anybody for his actions. He hand-picked an executive board, he stopped calling meetings and did very much as he darned pleased in his arrogant and dictatorial way.

At one of the last meetings—about six months ago—an organization committee was virtually forced upon him from the floor. It might never have happened for all the good it did us. The committee was allowed to meet only a very few times and then one Monday evening, after a stormy discussion in which the members disagreed with the organizer on his procedure of doing all the work by himself, pointing out to him that even if he were a genius this could not be accomplished, the doors were actually closed in their faces. By that I mean there were no more organization meetings held. Everyone was told to stay home and wait for the call when it came for action. Action still unknown, surprise, element still prevailing.

### CALL THIS A STRIKE?

By now, we were entering the season, full swing, and in the first week of March the first surprise "bomb shell" fell. Our organizer called out on strike the blockers from three shops on March 8 (the blockers being the only craft that he concentrated on, they being the key men this season.) Those blockers called responded about 90 per cent, but the girls were not even touched and so we had shops where nine men came out, 35 girls remained in, three men out and 25 girls in, etc.—until one shop was called where only one blocker worked, but where the 12 girls were union members and a little more class conscious and that was the first shop out in full force.

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## CIRCULATION VS. MILLINERS—WHO GETS THE SPACE?

This story of the Los Angeles Millinery Workers' Union is another example of how badly we need an eight-page Western Worker. This story was mailed to us on April 8th. We held it—not because we don't consider it important or don't like the way it's written—but because we felt the space was needed for other articles.

This time we're taking the bull by the horns and putting this story in. Which forces us to leave out the material on the circulation drive which is so tremendously important.

The next issue will be the May Day edition. In the following one we will print some of the many letters we have received in response to our requests for criticisms, suggestions for new features and general improvements. Some of those letters have surprised us.

There is a cry for more international news and comment—so we're planning a page of it. So many asked us to revive the old "East of the Rockies" and "Foreign News Briefs" that they may appear again.

And every section, particularly Los Angeles, wants more space. They shall have it.

Have you written in your suggestions and criticism yet?

Next came two more shops of union people where all responded to the call of the union when the blockers were stopped and now it began to look as though we were going to get some action, the situation beginning to develop into a general strike situation. But this is just where the mistakes of the leadership come in.

### "ROMAN HOLIDAY"

No picket lines were permitted by our organizer, though the workers clamored for it. This was going to be a very respectable strike, we were told. We were just going to show the bosses how nice and valuable we were and that they could not replace us, and so, in a few days, the shops began to fill up with scabs, work was being finished without us, strikers, and we out on strike were just to meet in the union hall and talk to ourselves. No strike committee was elected. In fact no strike machinery at all. To all appearances there was no strike. Just a Roman Holiday.

We had about 150 workers out on strike involving about 10 shops, some shops being independent, others belonging to the Association.

### INACTIVITY

The workers' enthusiasm began to wane when no further action was forthcoming. The inactivity began to dampen and demoralize all spirit. Finally, about 12 days after the first shop was struck, a mass meeting was called on Friday, March 20, at which President Zaritzky was guest of honor, having arrived a day earlier. It was a well attended meeting and had our leadership prepared the ground a great deal could have still been accomplished then. But even at such a late hour we were still in the dark as to what our next step was to be.

Carrano did indicate that we might call a general strike following Monday and asked for a motion to that effect from the members. But no motion was forthcoming. On the contrary, two members took the floor and spoke against a general strike because of lack of preparation, but urged the leadership to intensify the

fight in the shops already out, put up picket lines, make it into a real struggle and to try and win conditions for those out.

### PROMISES

When no motion for strike was made, President Zaritzky had to remind Carrano that such a motion would have to first come from the Executive Board to be legal and so the whole matter was referred to the Executive Board, that was to meet with Zaritzky that same evening.

But that, alas, was the end of everything. This meeting did not take place until the following Thursday. Zaritzky presided and took stock of the messy situation. At this meeting many rank and file members appeared and brought charges against Carrano, his methods and dictatorial tactics and of fooling the blockers in telling them that so much was going to happen, so many more shops were going to be called out. These workers claimed that had they known that there was such a few people called out, they would have never responded. One hundred and fifty strikers out of 1000 in a trade!

President Zaritzky tried to pacify and smooth the situation out by calling it just another unfortunate move. He promised to send a woman organizer, since most of the workers in Los Angeles are women and they are not even contacted. He also promised to look into our charges against Carrano. But those were just promises.

### "INVENTORY"

The concrete gains and losses are as follows: Four independent shops employing between 70-75 workers have signed up with the union. The workers in these shops enjoy a gain of 2½ hours from 40 to 37½, some increase in wages, 11-13 for overtime, two paid holidays and of course union recognition. But in the Association shops we lost out completely. Some of the workers were taken back and others have been left out and blacklisted. In all, when the strike was called off, some workers having been out two weeks, others three weeks, we had about 40-45 members discriminated against and

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Reserve this date! Annual Workers May Day Picnic, May 10, 1936 at Varsity Park Picnic Playgrounds (3 miles west of Menlo Park). Enjoy this picnic, which will last till midnight. Barbecued dinner, Italian, Greek, Chinese, Armenian and Russian dishes. Baseball game, foot races, singing, dancing. Sing around the evening bonfire. Admission 25c, roundtrip transportation 25c. Trucks leave 121 Haight Street from 8:30 a. m. to 12 noon.

**DANCE** given by Branch 4310, I. W. O., Sunday, April 26, 1936, 8 p. m., at 779 Vallejo st. Good Music. Good Time for All. — Adm. 25c. Ladies Free.

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**MAY PICNIC**—All day Sunday, April 26th, at Royal Palms Grove, San Pedro. SAVE THE DATE!

**ANNUAL I.L.D. SPRING PICNIC**, May 17, at Verdugo Country Club. Keep date open!

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## A Novel of Southern Mill Workers

## "A STONE CAME ROLLING"

## Good Story Falls Down on Details

"Her disease was plegia, sometimes called 'mother sickness,' because mothers usually ate less than others in a family where the supply was uncertain."

In such careful understatement does Fielding Burke bring home to the reader of her novel, "A Stone Came Rolling," the terrible poverty of southern mill workers. The beauty of the mountains and piedmont, from which these workers are forced to come down to the mill towns, is described by her with an almost painful intensity; her descriptions of farm dusk and mountain storm recreate an almost tangible atmosphere.

In "A Stone Came Rolling," however, the beauty of the hill country is part of the story's tragedy. Britt, the husband of the heroine, cannot take part with complete intelligence in the struggles of the mill proletariat because his heart is rooted in the soil and he feels a false, but tradition-rooted, permanence and security in the plowed land, the slow change of seasons, and the glow and solidity of a well-kept old farm kitchen.

The story fails because of too high an emotional tone struck in the beginning; too high in view of the subsequent matter which fails to maintain this tone. The result is overstraining, and anticlimax. Ishma, the heroine, the revolutionist, is too perfect a being. This perfection is, delectably portrayed through her effect on others, but not from what she does and says, where she lets us down. No revolutionist has been without the

doubts and despairs that assail Ishma, and are so well portrayed by the author, but none are as soft-minded as she seems to be. This same strain and overemotion appear in the character of Bly Emberson, the "fair" mill owner, dominated by a selfish wife. The author is so interested in creating him as a human being that she completely fails to create him in a social perspective. He is not socially meaningful, and so his picture is blurred, almost mystical, while Verna, his wife, that Christian woman whose selfrighteousness and egotism nearly destroy her family, and does destroy her husband, is drawn with an acid pencil that should be the author's favorite tool.

The novel fails artistically where the author fails in good understanding of revolutionary practice. Her Ishma is weak because Fielding Burke does not know how a working class leader acts; her Hickman is only a melodrama villain because Fielding Burke has not studied the labor spy in action, nor knows how to distinguish his role from that of the trade union misleader; and her novel comes to a close on the impossible but highly typical and insignificant gesture of a policeman in jail saving her from the sadistic passion of Hickman.

Fielding Burke will know the labor movement more intimately and her work will be better. Her fine technique and intimate knowledge of the southern workers' world make "A Stone Came Rolling" a fine book to read.

## \$7,549.11 Raised in 1936 Fund Drive

## FINAL REMITTANCES ANNOUNCED

## Each Section's Donations Are Listed

The last account and the final remittance in the Western Worker financial drive for a 1936 sustaining fund of \$7500 are in, finished and tabulated. The friends of the Western Worker not only raised the quota but overdid it \$49.11. The drive closed April 15th.

The Communist Party and the staff of the paper wish to express their appreciation of this support and congratulate the workers of the West Coast for doing a record job.

Following are the concluding figurings on remittances received in the drive:

## DONATIONS RECEIVED FROM APRIL 4TH TO APRIL 15TH

Los Angeles Section	\$ 86.42
Oakland Section	40.00
San Diego Section	12.00
Eureka Section	9.10
San Francisco Section	8.00
Palo Alto, San Mateo Section	5.00
San Francisco Section	1.50
Waterfront Subsection, San Francisco	40.40
Fillmore Subsection, San Francisco	22.63
Special No. 6, San Francisco Section	40.00
Mission Subsection, San Francisco	2.40
Downtown Subsection, San Francisco	7.20
Marina Subsection, San Francisco	5.10
North Beach Subsection, San Francisco	4.30
Esthonian Women's Circle, San Francisco	5.00
L. J. Arbuckle, Calif.	1.83
M. K. Bryant, Washington	1.00
W. G. Riverside, Calif.	.50
A. N. San Francisco	1.00
Friend	.75
B. San Mateo Section	2.00
Total received April 4th to April 15th	\$ 296.76
Previously acknowledged	7252.95
Total raised	\$7549.11
Quota	7500.00

## OVERSUBSCRIBED \$ 49.11

## FINAL STANDING (By Sections) WESTERN WORKER DRIVE

Section	Quota	Raised	Per Cent
Sacramento	\$ 50.00	\$ 94.28	189
Sonoma	75.00	134.25	178
San Mateo	100.00	158.60	159
San Diego	200.00	257.18	129
San Bernardino	50.00	61.58	123
San Francisco	75.00	90.89	121
Bakersfield	25.00	28.16	113
Los Angeles	350.00	388.31	111
Merced	25.00	27.50	106
East Bay	350.00	353.20	101
Cogita Costa	50.00	50.00	100
Nevada	25.00	25.00	100
Fort Bragg	25.00	69.75	100
San Jose	25.00	23.87	95
At Large District	175.00	150.98	86
Stockton	25.00	22.01	88
Fresno	50.00	41.44	83
San Francisco	2500.00	2001.91	80
Eureka	50.00	28.95	58
Porterville	25.00	10.50	42
Monterey	75.00	21.75	33
Tulare	25.00	8.00	32
Arizona	25.00	2.00	8
TOTALS	\$7500.00	\$7549.11	101

## Home In the Mountains

A Short Story of a Union Man Who Went Home for a Rest . . . By Russell J. Dyart



One of them pulled a gun on Ted Latham and Ted won. That was bad for the ranchers. They shouldn't have done it that way.

Dog tired and more than weary of his most difficult struggle to work in the city and send enough money home to the old folks, Dan felt that the five years of heart-burn was gone now as the stage wound about the familiar hills near and nearer to home.

Town lay at the bend of the river. It looked rather desolate and woe-tattered, though. Still, it hadn't changed much. There was the beautiful new bank building towering above everything. Mom wrote and told him all about it. The banker couldn't foreclose on the ranches because the ranchers stuck together and defied the sheriff. Then the Federal government loaned the ranchers just enough money to pay the banker. They didn't get any money unless the banker recommended them, and he was right there to get all of it. The ranchers still owed money, but it was to Uncle Sam now.

Federal men came up to collect some of it—only, one of them, pulled a gun on a rancher, Ted Latham, and Ted won. That was bad for the ranchers. They shouldn't have done it that way.

Dan saw Old Phil, the sheriff, standing near the stage watching the passengers get off. He looked as big as ever, greyer, maybe. That was probably because he refused to help the Federal men investigate the killing. Mom wrote "That when they came and asked questions, Old Phil plunked his boots upon his battered desk and growled, 'Ain't no use you Federal fellers interrogatin' me. I live in these parts among mighty fine friends that I've known all my life. They're a law abiding and peaceful people, and that's that.' Nobody heard anything more about the investigation—and the Federal government wasn't taking any ranches there—yet."

"Howdy, Son," Dad was beaming. Seemed childish to kiss him, to hug him tight. Dan tried to laugh away the sting in his throat. Mom uttered a choked little squeal of joy.

"Dance bein' pulled off on tonight, son," Dad proudly announced. "Every mother's one of us are mighty glad to have you home, boy, and we got to celebrate, whether or no."

"Whether or no, what?" Dan asked, that ominous thrust of fear-city drive and strain—note him forcibly. The years had not dulled the understanding of his father's mannerisms.

"Whether we can afford it or not, we're going to celebrate," laughed Dad.

"Oh, you mustn't burden him with the town troubles, Father," his mother, quick to catch his startled eyes, pacified. "We're all right. We don't owe anybody anything. Thanks to your efforts, we're clear, but it's—"

"It's the ranch hands," his father interjected, "lumber men, railroad workers, helpers, town-folks, son, some of the poorest ranchers who lost everything long ago. They're pretty bad off. But don't worry, we'll all dance and sing tonight!"

Dan shrugged it away and smiled to hear his father "Giddap!" and "Whoa!" to their ancient Ford that carried them up above the little town toward vege grass, timothy, clover and horses and cattle and home in the quakenaps.

Most everybody came to the dance. The hall was jammed with friends, neighbors and relatives. Here at home, all danced together. This was home hospitality. Mexican, Indian and white folk, even the Negro who moved up from Gallup some time ago was taking a hand at calling a Paul Jones. It was home, home at last! And he was here to stay!

Benson was calling partners for a square dance when the Negro asked if he could make an announcement. Benson nodded and motioned the home-made orchestra to sound their "A."

"People," the Negro looked uneasy but determined, "You know we all face serious trouble here. Some of us fellows drew lots to see who would talk first. I lost, and I got to do my best for us."

Dan wondered—the words were so familiar. City streets, low pay, longer hours, breadlines. Jesus, couldn't he ever get away from that disgusting mess? He came home to for-

get and live—not to battle all over again.

"... the branch of the Federal relief here is gonna cut us off from relief and make us work for the contractor, Swede Johnson. The work only lasts part of this summer. It will take weeks to get back on relief when the work is over. We know we can barely eat on what we get now. We got to have some clothes for winter."

Dan looked around at the serious, strained faces all intent on the speaker. Many were nodding grimly. He felt sick to his stomach. They were so poorly clothed. So—it was here at home, too—hunger, unrest and worry among his own people.

"... we got to do something right here and now about this and I'm tryin' to give you all a chance..."

They acquiesced in easier voices and nods. They plainly wanted to do something about this tragedy that stalked among them. They had too, but, there being no suggestions, they looked at one another in perplexed confusion.

Dan struggled to swallow the surge of blinding hatred that struck him suddenly. Hatred for the exploiting forces that brought this wretchedness upon his own people. His people who were so trusting and patient that they would still be easy prey to the old methods that were betraying them to this, and worse—He must act. He must show them the only way out!

"How about electing a chairman and organizing a regular meeting?" Dan heard himself call out in the uncertain hush.

The old fight, his city union experience, drove him to protect them from disaster.

Everybody was immediately relieved. They thought it was a fine idea, so Dave Robbins nominated Old Phil, the state-sheriff, "Give prestige, sorta," he boasted for his candidate.

"I nominate Father Gushee," Mary Stebbins spoke up. She was the town's proverbial old maid who attended all the births and deaths and one of the meagre few who regularly attended his decaying church.

Dan, studying toward their success, nudged one of the Martinez boys and suggested, "You nominate Lopez, there's a lot of your people here." And Martinez did so. Dan sought to steer them from the rocks of race prejudice. They must be united.

Quite a few hands went up to vote for Father Gushee, and Dan saw the wind blowing strongly in favor of Old Phil;

the devout Catholics versus the Master of the Masonic Lodge; old prejudices about to shatter them asunder and leave them helpless prey to the destructive force that was swiftly approaching. Democrat against Republican to end in that well known defeat. He moved beside Old Phil and pulled his sleeve. "Phil, why don't you decline the nomination in favor of Lopez? This isn't a job you'd want, is it?"

"Thunder no," Phil grinned with relief, "that's just how I can get out of it!" and he gave his support to Lopez with a fine speech.

The old Mexican, white head, erect, went proudly forward to accept the chair amid loud handclappings.

Everybody looked pleased, except Father Gushee and his small following of religious white folks.

Dan didn't want the old hates to disrupt his people. If they were to protect themselves they must keep a united front to the enemy. He caught Lopez's hand warmly and gave it a congratulatory squeeze, whispering, "Open the meeting with a prayer by Father Gushee; it will bring them with you."

Lopez smiled understanding into his eyes. They knew each other, these two, though it had been years since they rode their fence lines side by side and laughed that any one's color, race, or creed should deny him full equality.

Father Gushee came forward, like a little boy who wants very much to keep up with the grown people, and was desperately striving to please.

"Our Heavenly Father," he spoke slowly over the bowed heads and ignored the defiant ones. "Give us courage to do our duty toward our fellowmen, and give us understanding to guide our footsteps toward heavenly security—Amen!"

He smiled and accepted a chair someone pushed onto the platform. He was very happy to be there. It had been a long time since a public gathering as large as this one had asked his blessing.

"Friends, Amigos," Lopez always spoke both languages, he was talking with a mixed group, and he did it now, just as if he were telling a good joke in front of the Post office at mail time, "I am little experienced in being a chairman, what is it that you want me to do for you?"

"Appoint a secretary," Dan suggested in a clear voice and everybody nodded and many glanced gratefully toward him. "Is Fritz Chappel all right?" Lopez asked the audience. It

was unanimous. Fritz used to be bookkeeper for the Sculley Lumber Company before they shut down and began importing lumber products instead of making them. A table and chair was put on the platform and Fritz bent over to record the beginning of the meeting.

"Mr. Chairman," the Negro held up his hand, "Can I suggest number one question for the meeting?"

Lopez nodded. "That we, the unemployed relief workers and people of Mountain County appoint a committee to go before the local board and tell them that we refuse to be shut off relief for a temporary job under such wages and hours as Johnson offers."

Fritz Chappel wrote swiftly and read the first business of the new organization of unemployed in Mountain County. The way being shown, several tried to speak at once.

"Order! Order! I tell you!" Old Phil thumped the platform with the butt of his six gun. "Nobody can get head nor tail out of that babel."

Lopez grinned appreciation at Phil and pointed to Tom Kincaid. Tom said "There's enough of us in this county to do the contractor's job on our days off relief—and Sam's right, we got to earn extra money for clothes. God knows we can't go on like this..."

Many had to be stopped from speaking all at once. "Dease, Mr. Chairman," one of the Hart boys got the floor. "I think it's a disgrace that we folks have to put up with tellin' our private troubles to a total stranger, the relief investigator sent here from Denver. She acts like we were all criminals trying to steal from Uncle Sam, instead of beggin' for what we actually have to get to live on. I don't see why one of our own people here can't have that job. Take Miss Mary Stebbins, for instance, she's or relief like the rest of us. She never had a family of her own and she mothers every blaster one of us in sickness and in health and I go on that record as asking that she be made our relief investigator. She knows what we need, and she'd know mighty quick if any one of us was lying."

Cheers and stomping of feet greeted his point. Voices rose and fell in assent.

"Number three," Fritz repeated in a very business-like voice. A flood of warmth spilled through Dan's being. Listening remembering, whispering he moved from strategic person to

## Health and the Class Struggle

By FRANKLIN E. BISSELL, M. D.

## OAKLAND CLINIC NEGLECT INJURES BOY

Little Bobby Edell of Oakland will never again be able to hit a baseball as well as other boys. When in school, the teacher and the blackboard will be nothing but a blur unless he sits in the front row. For Bobby lies in a darkened room in the Alameda County Hospital, the last vestige of eyesight gone from his left eye, never to return again.

Yet Bobby's eyesight could easily have been saved if he had not received the run-around by the Alameda County Clinics. Several weeks ago, Dr. Black, machine-politician and head of the clinics, assured me that all patients in the clinics receive "adequate, scientific, medical care." Very well, then, Dr. Black, let us examine the facts in Bobby's case and see what sort of "scientific" care he has received!

## EYESIGHT GRADUALLY FAILS

Last January, Bobby's teacher and school nurse noticed that his eyesight was not normal and referred him to the clinic for an examination. After great difficulty, his parents finally succeeded in getting him an appointment at the end of February. By this time his eyesight had become much worse, but the doctor, rushed as he was by dozens of patients, made only a superficial examination and told him to return a month later.

By the time of the second appointment, Bobby was almost blind in his left eye. In spite of the entreaties of the frantic parents, who told the head nurse of this, she ordered them out of the clinic to return a month later, merely because they were six and a half minutes late.

## ROUTING CLINIC

A few days later Mr. Edell, hearing of the wonderful successes of the Federation of unemployed and Allied Organization's Routing Clinic in obtaining SERVICE for members of the organization, brought Bobby to the Federation's clinic and received a letter stating that Bobby should be given a thorough examination immediately. Armed with this letter, containing as such letters do, all the "dynamite" of the Organized Unemployed movement, Mr. Edell appeared at the county clinic the next day.

This letter was sufficient to blow open the doors of all departments in a hurry. The same nurse who had been so inhuman a few days before, suddenly acquired a peculiar fondness for Bobby and rushed him right in to see the doctor. This doctor, who had been so superficial at the previous examination, now suddenly found plenty of time to be very thorough and discovered that Bobby was suffering from a serious eye disease. Bobby was rushed to the hospital, but it was too late. His eyesight was gone forever, sacrificed on the altar of the political bosses' greed—the politicians who pocket millions in graft, but can't find a cent to improve the people's health.

Probably the doctor in the case can't be blamed. The doctors are caught in the same mill of political greed as the patients. They are unpaid and therefore cannot give as much time as they should to the clinic patients. Practically any clinic doctor will admit this, and yet Dr. Black has the gall to claim that the clinic service is "scientific!"

person. Christ, but he was glad he'd been a union man fighting for democratic control of his city union. Power fell in step beside him. The Negro flashed the whites of his eyes wonderingly. Martinez, too, joined smoothly in the correct fashion toward united action.

"... so they took my only son, Bob, away to the C. C. Camps and forced him to work thatway or else go without. By the name of his dead mother who was born and died in these mountains, the boy's homesick or a sight of them, and I want him home to be gittin' under my feet again, he's all I got left, and I can't do anything about it..."

"... came from Dad Shaffer. And they were all silent when he sat down. They had their sons out there too."

"Mr. Chairman," Dan was speaking again, "I offer a motion we make number four to the agenda read: We are opposed to the compulsory C. C. Camps and demand that they be voluntary. Also, instead of shipping other youths in here for forest conservation they use our own boys right here in the mountains they were born in, and where they belong."

A committee was elected to present their demands to the County Board of Relief at 10 o'clock Monday morning. Father Gushee volunteered to head the delegation and read their demands.

Again the Negro got the floor and said, "A delegation is only as strong as the members it represents. I every man, woman and child goes with the delegation in a mass body before the court house Monday morning, the relief officials will see they represent all of us, and they won't stall around behind a lot of red-tape excuses when they see a huge mass meeting."

Everybody liked that and it was agreed that they and all their friends should be there. So they returned to their dancing with greater gaiety.

The Negro's final words "Mass meeting," told Dan that they two were under one leadership. It was natural they should seek each other and press hands.

"Glory be," Sam's face relaxed into his natural smile, "You are down in one night. Comrade, what I've been tryin' to do for over a year, I'm glad to hear that you've come home to stay."

"It's just a vacation," Dan heard himself reply—and knew then, that he could never desert the struggle. He'd help Sam organize his own people here at home and go back to rejoin the Comrades in the fight against the predatory force that was plotting in city skyscrapers. After that he would come home—to stay—some day—

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# EDITORIALS

## The Significance of the Sacramento C.S. Congress

One hundred and sixty-one years ago last Sunday, the battle of Concord launched the struggle of our forefathers for freedom from British oppression.

Last Sunday in Sacramento another struggle for freedom was launched, a struggle just as vital to the security of the common people of California today as was the struggle of our ancestors for independence.

Through the length and breadth of California this week was set into motion a broad campaign to place the repeal of the vicious Criminal Syndicalism Law on the November ballot, to carry on a sweeping drive of education and organization to wipe this infamous law off the California statute books.

Welding trade unionists, Communists, Socialists, unemployed, liberals and radicals, into a common front of struggle against reaction, the State Congress for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, held last Sunday in Sacramento with 600 delegates and observers present, assumes historic significance for the broad masses of California.

The tremendous enthusiasm of the delegates was only matched by their firm determination to repeal the C. S. Law, to free its victims, and to smash any other anti-labor legislation that threatens our civil liberties.

Particularly notable was the general realization by the delegates that repeal of the C. S. Law cannot be obtained by passing resolutions, but must be won through hard work in the field.

## East Bay Officials Plan Attack on Labor

Backers of Oakland's so-called "Disaster Ordinance" revealed their hand Monday when Police Chief Greening called a secret conference of business representatives and police officials in the office of the District Attorney to discuss the present waterfront crisis.

This secret meeting was called under provisions of the Disaster Plan which allows its top committee full power to define what comprises a "disaster." In the eyes of the Pacific Gas and Electric, the railways and the public utilities, all of whom are represented on the Disaster Plan, a strike is always a disaster.

Labor should be on its guard. Direct strike-breaking action may result from Monday's secret conference. Labor should immediately put new life into the campaign to repeal this strike-breaking Disaster Ordinance or to force its revision so that it cannot be used against workmen who strike to preserve their unions or to win better working and living conditions.

San Francisco labor should be on guard to see to it that such a strike-breaking setup is not put over on this side of the Bay.

Protest to the Oakland City Council immediately. That body should be forced to back down from its strike-breaking plans. Organized labor is vitally concerned in this affair. ACT NOW!

## Demand Security

The nation's capital is a long way from California. But what goes on there is pretty close to the lives and the future of millions of workers in this state.

As this is being written a Senate Committee is holding hearings of the Frazier-Lundeen Social and Unemployment Insurance Bill. The Roosevelt administration is determined to kill this measure. Roosevelt has a "security" plan of his own which coincides much more closely with the demands of Hearst and the Liberty League.

Roosevelt's plan means not security but slow starvation for millions of jobless workers. Roosevelt already has said the "government must get out of this business of relief." Roosevelt talks smoothly in his campaign speeches and his smile is infectious.

However, campaign speeches and winning smiles will not feed millions who are unemployed through no fault of their own. The Frazier-Lundeen Bill would provide a minimum of security for these people—at the expense of the Hearsts, the Fords, the du Ponts and the rest of the "respectable" gangster tribe whose profits are increasing by leaps and bounds.

White collar workers, trade unionists, teachers, professional workers—this is your bill. This is your fight. Bombard the Senate Committee on Education and Labor with your telegrams and letters demanding a favorable report on the Frazier-Lundeen Bill. ACT TODAY IF YOU WANT TO EAT TOMORROW!

## Support the Student Strikes Against War

The traditional conception of a "peace demonstration" in the minds of university authorities and the financial interests which butter their

Two hundred and forty thousand signatures must be obtained to the repeal petitions by June 10th, of which Southern California has pledged to obtain 125,000 legal signatures of voters.

This goal can only be reached through the conscientious cooperation of all organizations participating in the Congress, through the broadening of this people's front until it encompasses all pro-labor and anti-fascist organizations and forces in California. It can only be reached through organized, determined canvassing of all precincts in the State to secure the necessary signatures to get the repeal measure on the ballot.

We should proceed with this great cause with all possible speed, but we must also be awake to the barriers that will be placed in our path by the reactionary forces. Let us not betray our cause by carelessness in circulating these petitions, as our slightest misstep will be seized upon by our enemies. It is vital that these petitions be circulated in strict accordance with the legal requirements, as printed on each petition.

This is a great cause of the common people of California which must awaken to action, all friends of liberty and foes of reaction. It marks the beginning of a people's front, which as it grows and finds its latent strength, can sweep aside the forces now developing towards Fascism and move forward to the eventual emancipation of the American people.

bread, is a patriotic celebration in which the R. O. T. C. parades, preparedness is stressed and war glorified.

The students have a different idea of patriotism. Not long ago, a student at Stanford university, witnessing one of the traditional jingo displays in which a baby tank was rumbled around the campus, printed a query in the college paper asking why they did not also take a stiff from the medical department morgue and parade it.

April 22nd is not a day instituted by the university authorities. It is a day chosen by the students themselves to hold their own kind of anti-war demonstrations. It is the day of nation-wide students strikes against war.

In the past, whenever students held meetings on the campus to stress the danger of war and fascism, authorities have quickly confirmed every accusation of the students by sending police or vigilantes to club them down. Last year's demonstrations were turned into bloody battles on many campuses.

This year, America is watching its universities. The students are preparing to turn out in mass demonstrations. What are the college authorities preparing? Public resentment against last year's clubbing of defenseless students, including young girls, is still ripe. If it happens again, America is going to be heard from. University authorities are supposed to be educators; not gangsters.

## Does California Need a United Front May Day?

A Question to Norman Thomas.

May Day, 1936, will see huge united front May Day demonstrations in New York, Chicago, Cleveland, and Detroit, with the joint participation of the Socialist Party, Communist Party, and large numbers of trade unions. But the Socialist Party in California has adopted a policy of "California exceptionalism," it has not only refused to participate in United Front May Day demonstrations and mass meetings, but leading Socialist officials in the needle trades unions have opposed the participation of their unions, particularly in Los Angeles, in any united front for May Day, in spite of the sentiment among many Socialists and trade unionists for unity.

Norman Thomas, who is speaking at California meetings this week, should explain this contradiction; is the united front less necessary in California than in New York? If anything, it is even more imperative, in view of the employers' offensive against the trade union and the increasing attacks of the reactionary pro-fascist forces on the civil rights of the people of California. Thomas issued a statement urging a united front of Socialists and Communists for May Day in New York. How does he stand on the refusal of the California Socialist leaders to agree to a united front on May 1st?

"God forbid we should ever be twenty years without such a rebellion. . . . What country can preserve its liberties if its rulers are not warned from time to time that the people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms. The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of tyrants. It is its natural manure."—Thomas Jefferson, in a letter to Mrs. John Adams on Shays' Rebellion.

## The French Closed their Ranks

### Toulouse Trade Union Conference Set Million Workers on Path to Unity—What About the Rest of the World?

(From London Daily Worker)

A million French trade unionists at the great Congress of Toulouse closed their ranks in unity against Fascism. Here Gaston Monmousseau, secretary of the European bureau of the Red International of Labour Unions, tells how it was done and gives a lead in the fight for unity on an international scale.

Before ever the Congress of Toulouse opened workers were stirring in approval of a move which was to end a split that had lasted 14 years. There was a wave of enlistment into the unions.

As agreement was reached between the C. G. T. (The Socialist Trade Union Federation) and the C. G. T. U. (the corresponding Communist body) recruiting gained an impetus that before long will make the new unified C. G. T. stronger than it has ever been before.

It was the answer to all those who had doubted.

Some had wished the C. G. T. U. to be subordinated unconditionally to the old C. G. T. Others had warned incessantly against admitting Communists, prophesying a weakening of the trade union movement.

France, like Spain, has learnt the lessons of history in Germany and Austria. Trade unionists, often in violent conflict, have realized that you cannot compromise with Fascism; that, if you do, it first destroys every form of public and trade union liberty, then heads straight to war.

In face of this, even the most hesitant saw that unity was necessary between the divided forces of the workers. They saw that it was possible. It was carried through.

#### ALL IN ONE DIRECTION

In analyzing the Congress decisions you can find compromises, even contradictions. But the problem is not so simple that you can expect to solve it along a single, clear-cut line.

It is a question of reassembling people who have been worked upon by all sorts of ideas and influences.

The essential fact is that these decisions all go in one and the same direction: towards defending the people from Fascism and war by fighting in the workers' interests against the economic and financial oligarchies, of which Fascism is the mouthpiece.

It was that determination which finally cemented the unity of the trade unions.

More than that, the Congress gave proof of collaboration be-

tween Communists and Socialists, members of other parties and of none at all, between all those who wish to better the lot of the workers, to defend both trade union and individual liberty, and to ensure peace.

It showed not just a formal unity, but a willingness to be first of all defenders of the whole working class, abiding by trade union democracy and a common discipline.

Sacrifices were made. Such men as Frachon and Racamond, leaders in the Communist Party for ten years, accepted the vote—regardless of how regrettable it may be—obliging them to choose between their leadership in the Party and leadership in the trade unions.

#### TIME OF NECESSITY

Only a few days had elapsed when Hitler recalled to all the implacable logic of Fascism by confronting the world with his threat of war.

Imagine this happening with the workers still divided. Fascism, within and without, might well have been fatal to liberty and peace.

We hope that this reassembling of trade union forces may be carried out wherever the same danger threatens the working people. Their forces, no matter what may be their form of organization or their traditions, no matter how bitter may have been their quarrels, are of no different stuff from those which have united in France after having opposed each other for 14 years.

All that is necessary is to open one's eyes to the imminence of the danger, to realize how the division of trade union forces internationally opens a breach to reaction, Fascism and war.

Look at the mistakes which made easy Fascism's rise to power in Germany and Austria. Remember how the Spanish workers swept away a White terror by reuniting in the common struggle.

United trade unionists of Spain and France appeal for unity on an international scale. Let us write a new page of history to the credit of the Labour movement at a time when the world sees the Fascist guns of a new war trained upon it.

You must discuss unity, comrades of the International Federation of Trade Unions, and you must do so in the broadest spirit of tolerance before it is too late.

It was in this spirit that the Congress of Toulouse voted adherence to the I. F. T. U. Discipline by us all in the face of this decision has as its counterpart the duty of extending unity on an international basis.

#### British Threat



Dressed like a European drug store cow boy, Sir Oswald Mosley, British Fascist Black Shirt leader, sticks to his job of making England "heil" conscious. British workers can ward off the danger of fascism in their country only by a mighty, militant united front.

## TRACY WORKERS WIN WAGE RAISE THROUGH STRIKE

### PEA PICKERS VICTORIOUS DESPITE ACTIVITY OF TROTZKYITES

(By a Worker Correspondent.)

STOCKTON, Calif.—A spontaneous strike of 1500 pea pickers broke out April 8 about two miles from Tracy. The workers, unorganized, scattered about in different camps, got together and drew up demands.

They were getting 20c a hamper, which is 33 pounds. Their demand was 1 cent per pound. They elected a strike committee and presented the demands to the contractors.

The contractors refused and the workers did not know what to do next. So they contacted a member of the Workers' Alliance which is the only unemployed organization in Stockton and told their problems to him.

The story was then carried to the vice chairman of the Workers' Alliance who is a Socialist. This man sent for a Trotskyite organizer. A woman, who's name I don't remember, came, and also a man from Fresno by the name of Hammet. They claimed to represent the Agricultural Workers' Industrial Union.

#### DUES HUNGRY

They were so busy trying to collect initiation fees into the union that they forgot the workers had nothing to eat. Finally, Saturday, the last day of the strike, a committee of strikers appeared at the office of a man who happens to be a left-wing Socialist.

Through his efforts relief was provided immediately and the writer of this took it down to the strike committee. While I was there the growers, through the contractors, came and offered to settle for 30 cents a hamper and also to recognize the union.

A meeting was called and the strikers accepted the offer.

## Light Reading?

\* \* \*  
Not So "Light"  
\* \* \*

## It's Propaganda

NEW YORK.—(FP)—Do you think the light fiction you read in popular slicks and pulps is just harmless entertainment, devoid of propaganda? Then listen to this trade gossip by David Raffelock in the annual forecast number of The Author & Journalist:

"Forthcoming fiction will be anti-liberal. . . . Authors who can weave skillfully a bright-colored literary tapestry to hang in front of reality will find a growing demand for their wares. . . . The lower middle class will hear that the crisis is over and will want to believe this dream."

Stories of personal achievement will be welcomed, the forecaster adds, "for they prepare for the coming of the Strong Man who will inevitably be necessary to preserve the status quo. This subtle adumbration of the coming Mussolini or Hitler will be sensed as highly desirable."

## Standard Oil Asks For New Guard Unit

RICHMOND, Calif., April 20.—At the request of the Standard Oil a unit of the National Guard is being established here for the purpose of breaking future strikes.

There was no such unit here during the 1934 maritime struggle.

A call has been sent out and signs posted in store windows asking for volunteers to "sign up."

# Seeing Red

By Michael Quin

## THE BOOK OF OLD MAN GANDER

### APPLE PIES

The working guys baked apple pies,  
All on a Summer's day.  
The wealthy guys who owned the pies  
Gave each of them two cents pay.

And the wealthy guys then priced the pies  
To sell at a nickel a slice.  
The working guys, with hungry eyes,  
Came round, but lacked the price.

"Come in and buy," said a wealthy guy,  
"It's a capitalistic trade;  
"I use my brain and take my gain  
"When you buy the pies you made."

The men grew pale and the pies got stale  
On the dusty bakery shelves,  
"Till the men got wise and one of the guys  
Said: "Why don't we bake for ourselves?"

The rich man called the cops and bawled:  
"Send down the riot squad."  
"They're playing tricks like Bolsheviks  
"And don't believe in God."

### THE SUPER-COMMUNIST

He could have nerves like Bay Bridge cables,  
Shoulders as broad as Hercules' stables,  
Arms with the strength of deep sea dredges,  
Fists that struck like giant sledges,  
Brains that hummed with a thousand volts,  
And a voice that talked in thunderbolts;  
But it wouldn't mean a thing, my lad,  
Without the patience that Lenin had.

## MOTHER PLEADS FOR RETURN OF VICTOR BARRON'S BODY TO U.S.; BRAZIL POLICE REFUSE

### Murdered Youth May Not Be Disinterred For 5 Years Is Official Dictum

Brazilian police have forbidden anyone to disinter, for a period of five years, the body of Victor Barron. Barron was the 26-year-old American who was tortured and killed without protest from the American Ambassador, by police of Rio de Janeiro.

Barron fought side by side with the Brazilian people in their struggle for freedom from a slavery imposed upon them by Wall Street imperialism.

Victor Barron's mother, Mrs. Edna Hill, lives in Alameda "Bud," Victor's younger brother, lives with her. She now is fighting both American and Brazilian officials in a determined effort to have her son's body returned to this country, along with effects left by him.

"On the death certificate," Mrs. Hill told me, "it says my son's body is not to be disinterred for five years."

What better proof could the American government have that Barron was murdered by Vargas—that he did not commit suicide as the American Ambassador Hugh Gibson and the Brazil officials attempted to make the world believe?

What reason could Brazil police have for wanting to keep Barron's body from view except that they hope to hide the wounds and scars of the torture they put him through before they tossed him out of a third story window and labelled it "suicide?"

"According to the American Consul," Mrs. Hill declared, "Victor was arrested because he had been seen in the presence of 'revolutionists.' I was also told they arrested him at the American Consulate as he was applying for a passport. They said he 'had too much money.'"

"I was told they followed him from New York to Brazil and that he had managed to elude them finally. They told me his father, Harrison George, is a Communist."

The police of Rio de Janeiro said Victor Barron "committed suicide" after he had informed them of the hiding place of Carlos Prestes, heroic Communist leader and fighter in the anti-imperialist front. Prestes was arrested—but his arrest came hours before that of Barron.

"The Brazilian Consul here in San Francisco storms and rages every time I enter their offices," Mrs. Hill said. "At first they talked to me. But later they suddenly forgot how to speak English."

Meanwhile, the bloody Vargas regime of Brazil goes ahead with its murder plans against Prestes and many of the 17,000 other political prisoners now rotting in dungeons and jails.

Coffee means blood in Brazil, just as sugar means blood in Cuba. Wall Street's agent. The

Brazilian government and Vargas is Wall Street's agent. The Brazilian peasants and workers and soldiers are warring a broad united front against the slave regime of America's bankers. Barron was active in this struggle—Prestes was active and the 17,000 in jail were active.

That's why Wall Street murdered Victor Barron.

## BRITISH M. P.'S ASK TRIAL FOR HITLER VICTIM

LONDON, April 19.—Two members of the British parliament are on their way to Berlin to present Hitler the petition of 108 parliament members asking immediate liberation of Ernst Thaelmann, or his public trial.

Thaelmann, who was 50 years old on April 16, has been held incommunicado, without open charge or trial, in a Nazi dungeon for more than three years.

He was the Communist candidate for president in 1932 and a beloved leader of the German workers for many years.

Reports from Magdeburg, Germany, state the Nazis deliberately picked Thaelmann's birthday to open trial of 150 workers and other anti-fascists, including 18 women, all charged with "high treason."

## Depression Is Over—For the Profit Makers

NEW YORK.—(FP)—Two thousand industrial, public utility and financial corporations increased their average net profits in 1935 42 per cent over the previous year, figures released by the National City Bank of New York reveal.

The profits, after deficits of some companies had been subtracted from the total amounted to more than 2½ billion dollars, compared with \$1,789,000,000 in 1934.

Particularly flashy reports were seen in half a dozen industries: automobile profits were up 136 per cent, auto accessories 133 per cent, electrical equipment 197 per cent, machinery 302 per cent, copper mining 373 per cent, shipping 389 per cent and textile products 353 per cent. One hundred forty-nine "class I" railroads slashed their combined deficit from almost \$30,000,000 in 1934 to only \$283,000 last year.

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Santa Barbara Office, 208 W. Canon Perdido.

San Pedro Office, 224 W. Sixth Street.  
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Sacramento Office, 1024 Sixth Street.